

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Melvin and Lois Nielsen exchanged their wedding vows on February 16, 1938, at the Roseni Lutheran Church parsonage located south of Beresford, South Dakota, promising to share their lives and love together for the rest of their days; and,

Whereas, Melvin and Lois gave life and love to five sons: Jerry, Merlin, Norman, Roger, and Loren, who further blessed their lives with 12 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Melvin and Lois lived and farmed on Melvin's family farm their entire married lives, and have been active members of the Brule Creek Church in Elk Point, South Dakota, since 1938; and,

Whereas, Melvin enjoys woodworking and gardening, and one never leaves their home empty handed during the gardening season; and,

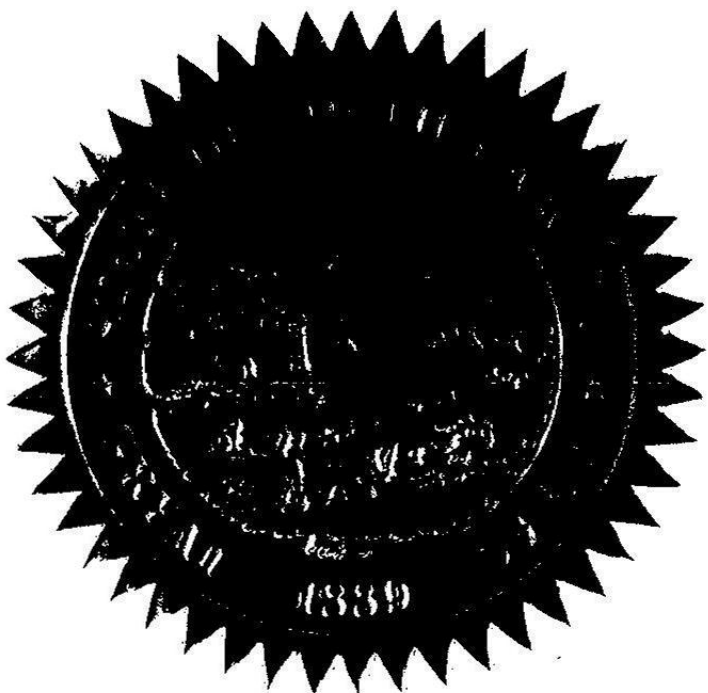
Whereas, Lois is a wonderful cook, a marvelous china painter, sews beautiful quilts, and has generously shared the finished products with her family members; and,

Whereas, The newly-wed couple of 70 years ago has been replaced by two devoted partners who have shared life's beauty and sorrow and have grown to love one another more because of their common journey:


Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 16, 2008, as

MELVIN AND LOIS NIELSEN DAY


in South Dakota, and I join with the honored couple's family and friends in wishing them continued health and happiness in a state that stands prouder today because of their contributions and commitment.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eleventh Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State